

STORAGE NAME: hm291a.rre
DATE: March 18, 1997

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
Rules, Resolutions & Ethics
BILL RESEARCH & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

BILL #: HM 291

RELATING TO: National Voter Registration Act; Amendments

SPONSOR(S): Feeney

STATUTE(S) AFFECTED:

COMPANION BILL(S):

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

(1) Rules, Resolutions & Ethics YEAS 9 NAYS 0

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I. SUMMARY:

This memorial urges Congress to enact amendments to the National Voter Registration Act in order to reduce fraudulent voter registration. No state revenues or expenditures are required by this memorial.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. PRESENT SITUATION:

Presently, persons may register to vote without providing proof of identification or verifying the registrant's signature. In fact, current law allows persons to register by mail and vote absentee without ever having been seen by another person. Persons may also register without providing a social security number, which increases the difficulty of monitoring duplication in the voter registration process. Recent voter registration fraud has been linked to these practices.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The recommended changes would require persons registering to vote to provide appropriate identification. Persons registering by mail would be required to provide either a notarized application photograph or a notarized copy of any authorized form of identification to register to vote. In addition, all newly registered voters would be required to list their Social Security numbers, given that these numbers would remain confidential and exempt from public access.

C. APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES:

1. Less Government:

a. Does the bill create, increase or reduce, either directly or indirectly:

(1) any authority to make rules or adjudicate disputes?

No

(2) any new responsibilities, obligations or work for other governmental or private organizations or individuals?

No

(3) any entitlement to a government service or benefit?

No

b. If an agency or program is eliminated or reduced:

(1) what responsibilities, costs and powers are passed on to another program, agency, level of government, or private entity?

This memorial does not eliminate or reduce any agency or program.

(2) what is the cost of such responsibility at the new level/agency?

N/A

(3) how is the new agency accountable to the people governed?

N/A

2. Lower Taxes:

a. Does the bill increase anyone's taxes?

This memorial has no fiscal impact.

b. Does the bill require or authorize an increase in any fees?

This memorial does not require or authorize any increase in fees or taxes.

c. Does the bill reduce total taxes, both rates and revenues?

This memorial does not reduce tax rates or revenues.

d. Does the bill reduce total fees, both rates and revenues?

This memorial does not reduce fees.

e. Does the bill authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government?

This memorial does not authorize any fee or tax increase by any local government.

3. Personal Responsibility:

a. Does the bill reduce or eliminate an entitlement to government services or subsidy?

No

b. Do the beneficiaries of the legislation directly pay any portion of the cost of implementation and operation?

This memorial does not require any new costs for implementation or operation.

4. Individual Freedom:

- a. Does the bill increase the allowable options of individuals or private organizations/associations to conduct their own affairs?

N/A

- b. Does the bill prohibit, or create new government interference with, any presently lawful activity?

N/A

5. Family Empowerment:

- a. If the bill purports to provide services to families or children:

- (1) Who evaluates the family's needs?

N/A

- (2) Who makes the decisions?

N/A

- (3) Are private alternatives permitted?

N/A

- (4) Are families required to participate in a program?

N/A

- (5) Are families penalized for not participating in a program?

N/A

- b. Does the bill directly affect the legal rights and obligations between family members?

N/A

- c. If the bill creates or changes a program providing services to families or children, in which of the following does the bill vest control of the program, either through direct participation or appointment authority:

N/A

(1) parents and guardians?

N/A

(2) service providers?

N/A

(3) government employees/agencies?

N/A

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

N/A

III. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT:

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE AGENCIES/STATE FUNDS:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

This memorial does not create any non-recurring effects on state agencies or state funds.

2. Recurring Effects:

This memorial does not create any recurring effects on state agencies or state funds.

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

This memorial does not create any long run effects on state agencies or state funds.

4. Total Revenues and Expenditures:

This memorial does not have any long run effects on total revenues and expenditures.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AS A WHOLE:

1. Non-recurring Effects:

N/A

2. Recurring Effects:

N/A

3. Long Run Effects Other Than Normal Growth:

N/A

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

1. Direct Private Sector Costs:

This memorial does not create direct private sector costs.

2. Direct Private Sector Benefits:

This memorial does not create any direct private sector benefits.

3. Effects on Competition, Private Enterprise and Employment Markets:

This memorial does not have any effects on competition, private enterprise and employment markets.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None

IV. CONSEQUENCES OF ARTICLE VII, SECTION 18 OF THE FLORIDA CONSTITUTION:

A. APPLICABILITY OF THE MANDATES PROVISION:

N/A

B. REDUCTION OF REVENUE RAISING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. REDUCTION OF STATE TAX SHARED WITH COUNTIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:

N/A

V. COMMENTS:

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VI. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

VII. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON Rules, Resolutions & Ethics:

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